

MINUTES

City of San Diego Park and Recreation Board BALBOA PARK COMMITTEE October 1, 2015

Meeting Location:

Balboa Park Club
2150 Pan American Road
San Diego, CA 92101

Mailing Address:

Balboa Park Administration Building
2125 Park Boulevard
San Diego, CA 92101-4792

ATTENDANCE:

Members Present

Kenneth Davenport – Vice Chair
David Kinney – Chair
Andrew Kahng
Luanne Kanzawa
Don Liddell
Michael Singleton
David Strickland

Members Absent

Jeri Dilno
Micah Parzen
Johanna Schiavoni
Rob Steppke

Staff Present

Michael Ruiz, Balboa Park 2015
Casey Smith, Balboa Park

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Kinney called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JULY 2, 2015

MOTION: MOVED/SECONDED MR. STRICKLAND/MS. KANZAWA

A motion was made by Mr. Strickland and seconded by Ms. Kanzawa, to approve the July 2, 2015 meeting minutes. The motion was approved (6-0-1) with Mr. Kinney abstaining.

REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCES – None

NON AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

- Ms. Daniele Laman, liaison for House of Pacific Relations (HPR), reported the following:

House of Mexico had a nice program at the Organ Pavilion.
House of China had a nice program at the Organ Pavilion which included fireworks.
Ms. Laman read an editorial from the Union Tribune published on September 27, 2015 regarding the House of Mexico and placement of its future cottage.
House of Ireland was broken into twice in August.
- Richard Phillips, resident of Golden Hill

Richard provided comments regarding the new Big Belly trash cans installed on the West Mesa.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

- Chairperson Kinney reported the following:

There were no Park and Recreation Board meetings over the past few months.

STAFF REPORT

- **City Council Third District, Council Representative Steve Hill**

Steve congratulated Betty Peabody on her recent “Ms. San Diego” award by the San Diego Rotary Club and thanked Betty for her on-going philanthropic efforts in Balboa Park.

The Mayor has made new appointments to the Balboa Park Committee which will go before City Council on October 20, 2015. The new appointments include:

- Johanna Schiavoni, re-appointment
- Amy Bernal, new appointment (filling seat previously held by Jeri Dilno)
- Dang Nguyen, new appointment (filling seat previously held by Mike Singleton)

Councilmember Gloria is very happy that the Bud Kearns pool was re-opened. Phase I was completed, Phase II will begin in 2017.

Councilmember Gloria and Mr. Hill are both excited about the Maker Faire. Councilmember Gloria will be at the opening ceremonies.

October is kid’s free month in San Diego and is sponsored by the San Diego Tourism Authority.

- **Michael Ruiz on behalf of Susan Lowery-Mendoza, Balboa Park Facilities and Special Events**

The elevator modernization project has begun at the Casa del Prado and is scheduled to be completed by November 30. The next scheduled elevators for modernization are at the Old Globe.

A final punch list walkthrough of the Hall of Nations is scheduled for October 13. The facility is currently tented for termites.

The Casa del Prado Theater doors are being replaced. Four out of the six total doors have been hung and they are beautiful.

Our newly budgeted Assistant Recreation Center Director positions have been selected through a Department-wide interview process. Brett Stanley at the Balboa Park Activity Center started his assignment on September 26 and Andre Reynolds at the Municipal Gym will start on October 10. The hours of operation at both recreation facilities will increase from 45 hours to 60 hours on October 5.

The installation of the new roof at the Chess Club building is complete. Further improvements to the facility are awaiting mold abatement.

Facilities Division will be renovating fixtures and painting the restrooms at Spanish Village within the coming month.

- **Casey Smith, District Manager, Balboa Park Operations**

Adopt-A-Plot Projects for July, August and September:

1. Living Art Designs at Organ Pavilion Lot
2. Balboa Park Trust – Hall of Champions
3. Balboa Park Trust – Municipal Gym
4. El Prado West is currently underway
5. Spanish Carpet Garden is in planning
6. Rotary 33 – Alcazar Garden

City staff, along with staff and volunteers from the Veterans Museum, renovated the landscaping around the building. Overgrown plant material and turf was removed, turf will be removed and the irrigation will be updated. New plant material will be drought tolerant and low maintenance.

City staff installed new landscape and irrigation around several of the International Cottages. Irrigation on the Park Blvd Medians was turned off in mid-April due to the Governors Mandate. City staff has retrofitted the irrigation and installed Netafim drip rings to ensure that the trees are watered. Staff has finalized the landscape plans and is working with on securing quotes for the work. Later this month City staff will begin planting the first set of 100 trees in the park. 47 trees will be installed on the West Mesa in four locations; near the Nutmeg restroom, 6th Ave. playground, Campfire Camp and the Trees for Health Garden. The additional 53 trees will be planted in various areas in the Central and East Mesas with the goal of planting all 100 trees by March 1, 2016. City staff installed 23 of 24 sets of Big Belly trash cans on the West Mesa. The program was paid for via a grant secured by Environment Services Department and will assist the park in complying with the Municipal Code which requires recycling containers in public parks. The new cans use wireless and LED technology to alert staff when they are full which reduce maintenance and increase efficiency. City staff continues to work diligently to identify ways to reduce water usage in the park to realize at least a 16% water savings compared to our 2013 usage beginning on June 1. Through June, July and August the Department has reduced usage by approximately 44%. Rangers continue to work with SDPD, the Homeless Outreach Team and Psychological Evaluation Response Team (PERT) on a regular basis.

- **Michael Ruiz, District Manager, 2015 Centennial Celebration - Balboa Park Centennial Update**

There were four free major events scheduled to celebrate the Centennial Music Series; Music in the Park, Twilight in the Park Summer Concerts, Centennial International Summer Organ Festival and Make Music Day San Diego. Over the course of these free events over 90,000 people attended. In addition, the park hosted the first Outdoor International Film Series.

This weekend, Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. is the first Maker Faire. Ten institutions will be participating along with several outdoor activities including the Mayor's "Makers Plaza" which will highlight innovation from around the region.

CULTURAL PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM UPDATES

- Ms. Luanne Kanzawa reported the following:

To add to Michael Ruiz's report regarding the Maker Faire; Ten of the 17 museums in Balboa Park will carry Maker Faire exhibits and hands on activities, and the Plaza de Panama will become the Mayor's Maker Plaza, dedicated to San Diego innovators. The first-ever bi-national Maker Faire, this will be a weekend of quad-copters and robots, 3D printers and everything and anything you can Make – from both sides of the boarder. The premiere sponsor, Qualcomm, will be bringing world-class exhibits including a crowd-sourced, super powerful, 3D printed telescope.

Mayor Faulconer and Mayor Jorge Astiazaran of Tijuana will share the stage at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday to announce the opening of San Diego's 1st Annual Maker Faire! We hope you all can come to this unique event. For more information, go to sdmakerfaire.org

Please join the Sustainability Program for our annual Partner's Breakfast on Monday, October 5 from 8 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. RSVP to sustainability@bpcp.org. Speakers include Councilman Todd Gloria, SDG&E VP Mike Schneider and Rear Admiral Mark Rich, Navy Region Southwest.

There will also be a panel of experts to engage the topic of Sustainability 2.0: What's left after you've picked the low hanging fruit projects? Panelist including the City of San Diego Sustainability Manager, the Navy's Regional Energy Manager and an Associate Professor from SDUS with expertise in sustainable tourism in cultural institutions. RSVP to sustainability@bpcp.org

The Learning Institute is in the process of interviewing candidates for the Manager of Curriculum and Learning Experience position. They hope to have this new team member soon! Over the past month, BPLI has met with ten organizations to present the Online Learning Portal. In October, BPLI will host a three-part Webinar Series through American Alliance of Museums with San Diego Museum of Man, and hold CPR training on October 15th at the Rueben H. Fleet Science Center.

ACTION ITEMS

Consent

101. None

Adoption

201. “Art of the Open Air”, San Diego Museum of Art. Presenter: Dieter Fenkart-Froeschl, Chief Operating Officer.

Mr. Fenkart-Froeschl introduced Anita Feldman, Deputy Director of Curatorial Affairs and Education. Mr. Fenkart-Froeschl and Ms. Feldman provided a summary of the organizations and groups that they contacted for input regarding the project. They then provided a detailed power point of the project.

The committee discussed the item, provided feedback and asked questions.

MOTION: MOVED/SECONDED MS. KANZAWA/MR. STRICKLAND

A motion was made by Ms. Kanzawa and seconded by Mr. Strickland, to recommend approval of the project as presented. The motion was approved (6-0-1) with Mr. Kinney abstaining.

Special Events

301. Earth Fair. Presenter: Chris Klein, CFO, San Diego Earth Works.

Mr. Klein provided a brief summary of Earth Fair’s proposal to host a beer garden for the second time at their event.

The committee briefly discussed the item.

MOTION: MOVED/SECONDED MR. SINGLETON/MR. DAVENPORT

A motion was made by Mr. Singleton and seconded by Mr. Davenport, to approve the item as presented. The motion was approved (6-0-1) with Mr. Kinney abstaining.

302. The Balboa Park 8 Miler (previously known as Balboa Park 8 & 3 Miler). Presenter: Peter Hess, San Diego Track Club.

Mr. Hess provided a summary of their proposed changes and additions to the course routes and times.

The committee discussed the proposed changes and requested that the Club look at additional traffic and road closure signage, allowing access to the Zoo employee parking lot and utilizing sidewalks on the West Mesa if feasible to avoid possible road closures impacts.

MOTION: MOVED/SECONDED MR. SINGLETON /MR. DAVENPORT

A motion was made by Mr. Singleton and seconded by Mr. Davenport, to approve the event as presented and to request that they look at alternative routes to minimize road closures on 6th Ave. The motion was approved (6-0-1) with Mr. Kinney abstaining.

303. Suja Rock ‘n’ Roll San Diego 5K. Presenter: Bruce Walton, Director, Competitor Group

Mr. Walton and Kara Kong provided a summary of their event including race times, route and potential impacts to the park and community.

The committee discussed the item, summer moratorium, impacts to turf, road closures and park fees.

MOTION: MOVED/SECONDED MR. MR. DAVENPORT/MR. SINGLETON

A motion was made by Mr. Davenport and seconded by Mr. Singleton, to approve the event as presented. The motion was approved (5-0-2) with Mr. Kahng and Mr. Kinney abstaining.

WORKSHOP ITEMS

401. Proposal for Vasco Nunez de Balboa Statue, House of Spain. Presenters: Dr. Iris Engstrand, Professor of History, University of San Diego and Jesus Beneyas, President, House of Spain

Dr. Engstrand and Mr. Beneyas provided a power point presentation and summary of their proposal including the history of Balboa, details of the statue and artist, and possible locations for the statue within the park.

The committee discussed the item including funding, possible locations, details on the plaque and statue, and history.

Public Comment: Mr. Mike Kelly, on behalf of the Committee of 100, commented on the proposed locations of the statue within the proposal. The Committee of 100 does not oppose a statue outside of the National Historic District but does oppose a statue within the National Historic District of the park.
Mr. Frank Nobiletti was ceded time by four other individuals. He commented on the history of Balboa and countered aspects of the history that was presented during the presentation.

INFORMATION ITEMS

501. Upas Pipeline Construction Update, City of San Diego Public Works. Presenter: Alice Altes, Associate Engineer.

Ms. Altes provided an update and description of the project and potential impacts to the park and community.

The committee discussed the item, asked questions and provided comments and feedback.

502. Park Equivalencies Update, City of San Diego Planning Department. Presenter: Howard Greenstein, Park Designer

Mr. Greenstein provided a detailed power point presentation regarding the park equivalencies for the Uptown, North Park and Greater Golden Hill community plan updates.

The Committee discussed the item at length and provided Mr. Greenstein with feedback and input on the recreational elements, economic impacts, possibility of utilizing private land and service area analysis.

Public Comment: Leo Wilson provided comments regarding impacts to the West Mesa of Balboa Park, impacts to the Uptown neighborhood and urbanization of the West Mesa.

**503. Inspiration Point Solar Panel Proposal, City of San Diego Environmental Services Department.
Presenters: Dave Weil, Deputy Director and Lorie Cosio-Azar, Program Manager**

Mr. Weil provided a description of the project and potential impacts to the park and community.

The Committee discussed the item and provided feedback including concerns regarding the design, location and potential impacts. They requested that the item be brought back before the Committee for further review and discussion as a work shop item as the design and project becomes more solidified.

**504. Water Reduction Strategies and Approach, City of San Diego Park and Recreation Department.
Presenter: Casey Smith, District Manager**

Item tabled until next month.

SUB-COMMMITTEE REPORTS

601. Land-Use and Policy – None

602. West Mesa Subcommittee – None

COMMITTEE MEMBER'S REPORTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:38 p.m.

Next Scheduled Meeting: Thursday, November 5, 2015
6:00 P.M.
Balboa Park Club
2150 Pan American Road West
San Diego, CA 92101

Respectfully submitted,

Casey Smith
District Manager